

Soviet Seminar Evaluation

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[redacted]

The lectures on the USSR were well done, it seemed to me. The speakers planned them thoroughly, leaving few questions unanswered--a gratifying thing since I was unfamiliar with much of the material.

The explanation of Marxism, particularly the philosophical aspects, was the best of any I have heard. [redacted] stacked his ideas upon one and other with almost unflinching precision, a talent sorely missing in a number of the books I have read on the subject.

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The history of the USSR was not as compact in presentation as [redacted] lectures on ideology. But the material was uniformly interesting, which minimized to some extent the effect of its unmanageable breadth. The lectures on organization, though equally interesting, also suffered from the mass of facts at times.

On the whole I found the lectures greatly useful, especially insofar as understanding the ideological machinations of Communism outside the USSR is concerned. [redacted] lectures on Lenin's views of nationalism were highly informative in this respect, and as neatly contained as his other ones.

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More lectures like these would be beneficial, if the quality of the speakers is maintained.

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